

Section 3.0 APPLICABLE WATER QUALITY STANDARDS AND TARGETS

As required by the USEPA, TMDL projects must identify a quantifiable water quality target for each constituent that causes a body of water to appear on the State of Indiana's 303(d) TMDL Priority List. Identifying a water quality target for a specific water body will depend on the nature of impairment and applicable water quality standards. The following applicable uses may apply for the Trail Creek watershed as designated by the Indiana Water Pollution Control Board (327 IAC 2-1-3):

- Surface waters of the State are designated for full-body contact recreation during the recreation season (April through October);
- All waters, except limited use waters, will be capable of supporting a well-balanced, warm water aquatic community;
- All waters, which are used for public or industrial water supply, must meet the standards for those uses at the point where water is withdrawn;
- All waters, which are used for agricultural purposes, must meet minimum surface water quality standards;
- All waters in which naturally poor physical characteristics (including lack of sufficient flow), naturally poor or reversible man-induced conditions, which came into existence prior to January 1, 1983, and having been established by use attainability analysis, public comment period, and hearing may qualify to be classified for limited use and must be evaluated for restoration and upgrading at each triennial review of this rule; and
- All waters that provide unusual aquatic habitat, which are an integral feature of an area of exceptional natural beauty or character, or which support unique assemblages of aquatic organisms, may be classified for exceptional use.

The bacterial water quality targets established by the Indiana Water Pollution Control Board (327 IAC 2-1-6 Section 6(d)) for *E. coli* using membrane filter count are the following numeric standards:

- Concentrations shall not exceed 125 cfu/100 ml as a geometric mean based on not less than five samples equally spaced over a 30-day period nor exceed 235 cfu/100 ml in any one sample in a 30-day period.

These water quality standards also include policies regarding the State nondegradation policy applicable to all surface waters of the State (327 IAC 2-1-2) as follows:

- For all waters of the state, existing beneficial uses shall be maintained and protected. No degradation of water quality shall be permitted which would interfere with or become injurious to existing and potential uses; and

- All waters whose existing quality exceeds the standards as of February 17, 1977, shall be maintained in their present high quality unless it is demonstrated that limited degradation of such waters is justifiable based on necessary economic or social factors and will not interfere with any beneficial uses.

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